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The maple leaf forver

This raft, called Canadian Pirate Puppies, took the title for originality during the annual Crazy River Raft Race, part of Minden Canada Day celebrations on July 1. Descending from Rotary Park and ending at Sunnybrook bridge in downtown Minden, the rafters were met with applause and cheers as they reached the finish line. See more photos on page 3. /VANESSA BALINTEC Staff

Carter concerned about arena overage

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Work on the the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena renewal project up until the end of May went 9.4 per cent over the amount that was budgeted for it, but Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin and community services di-

rector Mark Coleman maintain that because of the integrated project delivery model being used, the project will not go over its total budget.

Coleman gave a progress update on the nearly \$13-million project during a June 27 council meeting, explaining that the footings for the new arena were almost complete, and the foundation walls scheduled to go up shortly. The project also includes a gymna-

sium with elevated walking track, modern accessibility features parking lot, landscaping and a refurbishment of the Minden Hills Community Centre, to which the arena is attached. In February, council awarded the project to McDonald Brothers Construction and Parkin Architects Ltd., on a joint bid that was the sole bid the township received for the job. Those companies are using a variety of subcontractors, and negotiations and tenders

for different parts of the project are ongoing.

Coleman told councillors proposals for the fitness room design have been received, and tendering for items such dry walling and asphalt are underway.

"We should have further numbers within the next week on those," Coleman said.

Councillor Bob Carter said he wanted more clarity when it came to figures and reports

see **FIRST** page 2



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First portion of project 9.4% over budget

from page 1

titled more clearly, noting that according to one of the reports in the community services portion of the agenda, work on the first phase of the project had gone more than nine per cent over the budgeted amount.

"I would prefer to get a little more information and clarity on things," Carter said, referring to one of the reports. "Nineteen, twenty-three dash C ... it doesn't really have a title, so I can't really tell you what the report is, but I see you're running at 9.4 per cent over budget on that."

That report shows that for the validation (essentially engineering assessments), pre-construction and design portion of the project, the amount in the budget was \$820,630, and that with actual and forecasted costs, the cost for that work is anticipated to cost \$897,513.25, for a shortfall of nearly \$77,000.

"You're talking here, and you're saying everything's on time and on budget, and I look at this and it's 9.4 per cent over budget," Carter said. "So, either your original document isn't true, or I don't understand it, and either way, that's a problem."

Coleman responded by saying that actuals in the coming months are expected to come in below budgeted amounts.

"This is the portion of the budget that relates to the design consultation and consultant services," Coleman said. "This is a progress tracking of those summary numbers as we progress from month to month, and so it may appear at this time that it's in contract to be over budget, as you've suggested. Just in the last two or three months, there's been more effort put in up front from the original forecast, so some of these next months, we haven't realized those actuals yet, we're likely to be under on some of those actuals."

"I guess what I'm looking for in the report, is that I can't glean that from anything I see," Carter said, adding he'd like to see overruns highlighted. "There has to be a way of communicating that, so we're clear and we're aware. Generally,

when the snowball starts rolling down the hill, it tends to get a bit bigger, and so you're 9.4 per cent behind on your first stage, it doesn't give me a lot of assurance more isn't going to happen. So, if you have explanations and there is something to tell me, don't worry about it, this is where we are now, and we're clear about it, it needs to be in the report. And I need to see, I'm sure others too, we need to have some titles on these reports."

"I'll endeavour to do that for the next report," Coleman said.

Carter said he also wanted greater clarity on the so-called "profit pool," essentially a contingency fund that is a joint pool of money accrued from any savings to be split 50/50 between the companies and the township, the township using any monies left in this fund for "value-added items" – smaller items such as a retractable stage or motorized basketball backdrops that are not included directly in the project's budget.

"I think it needs to be clearly stated what part of that is the township's," Carter said. "As I understand it, again, the way the payments are scheduled, is that the builder, or our partners, will be taking their part of the profit pool out over a period of time. So I think it needs to be clear how much of that money is ours, or potentially ours. Because, you know, it makes it seem like it's this great profit pool, but that money's going to someone else, it's not something we can use."

As of last week, the contingency fund was sitting at more than \$286,000, with \$272,895.85 of that accrued from savings to date from tender results, according to Coleman's report.

"Up to 50 per cent of project savings (currently \$136,447.92) can be retained or reinvested in value-added items upon full release," the report reads. "McDonald Brothers Construction is currently comfortable releasing \$40,000 of the project savings to date to cover the early integration costs noted in the updated value-added spreadsheet attached."

Coleman explained to council he was seeking approval of the expenditure of that \$40,000 to incorporate those value-added items – including motorized basketball backboards, a gym divider, a retractable stage, projector screen and projector – into the building's design, as electrical drawings for the facility are currently being completed.

The items have a collective value of \$150,000, however, as Coleman explained, "We are not necessarily expending that total value at this time, but to facilitate those things into the facility going forward, we are seeking approval for a certain value amount to incorporate those into the structure and design. So, if and when the contingency funds are fully released and there's adequate funds, then we can, at the time, do final approval on fully implementing it."

Coleman noted that the township might not be able to afford some of those additions for years into the future, but that it was about making them easy to add at that time.

"We won't have to cut holes in the building, and take the building apart," he said.

Noting that the contingency belonged half to the township

and half to the construction and architectural firms, Carter wondered what would happen should that contingency fund eventually be drained.

"If this \$40,000 is released, just to make it clear, if at some point we get to a zero value on this contingency, does the \$40,000 then become something that is fully absorbed by the municipality?" Carter asked. "In other words, I see that McDonald Brothers is currently comfortable releasing \$40,000, but, that's, if you will, \$20,000 of their money. Is that money we would have to pay them back if the contingency went to zero?"

"So, I should explain that a little better," Coleman said. "So, McDonald Brothers right now is comfortable releasing \$80,000, \$40,000 of which is ours."

"And \$40,000 theirs," said Mayor Brent Devolin. "We have a hard upset [limit]. There isn't anything happening that is taking us above that threshold."

"This is \$80,000, it's not \$40,000, and this is where it gets really confusing," Carter said. "It's actually \$80,000 that's being requested – \$40,000 of ours, \$40,000 of McDonalds'."

Devolin said that because most of the in-ground work had been completed, which meant the majority of risk associated with the project was over, the company was comfortable beginning to draw out contingency money.

"We both have \$40,000 of skin in this, and we're comfortable that contingency's not going to hit zero," Devolin said.

"I'm certainly new to this type of project, and I think they're kind of new to it also, so it's making sure some of these kinds of points as we go along, so that we don't all go down a road we don't plan to go down," Carter said.

Devolin said that this type of integrated project delivery system, with a shared profit pool is new, "for sure in Canada, not so much the rest of the world."

"It's the incentive of the profit pool portion of the management model is to really promote and strengthen the idea of keeping the project on budget and on time," Coleman said, "as well as demonstrating lots of value to the project to the owner, or the buyer, and it's their incentive to work harder, as they go through various tendering packages, to find the savings and make sure we're getting good value for the dollars that we're approving. Just very briefly, we've had areas of the project tendered where there's multiple bids, some of the bids are way off, way too high ... so they had to go back and work hard, sometimes approach others to get further bids, to make sure we're getting the bid that's realistic, because if we just accepting one the higher bids, we're paying more for something than we should. We're working hard to make sure that doesn't happen."

Devolin said the project would also be a showpiece for the project management model, and said the Minden arena was the first integrated project delivery job under \$30 million in Canada.

"Parkin Architects is no small firm," he said, emphasizing the arena project would be one the company would be referring to as an example.

Carter, along with councillors Pam Sayne and Jennifer Hughey voted against proceeding with the sole-source contract in February, while councillors Ron Nesbitt, Jean Neville, Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell and Devolin voted in favour. No feasibility study on the project was performed.

The township is forming a fundraising taskforce for the project, with a meeting of stakeholders scheduled for July 8. An additional call for members will then go out. Devolin has said he believes as much as \$1 million can be raised.

“

I would prefer to get a little more information and clarity on things.

— COUNCILLOR BOB CARTER

”



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The Haliburton Drum Fest and Art Squared Haliburton tent had many visitors during Canada Day festivities in Minden July 1. Among face-painting and game stations, kids flocked to various booths for some fun.



Wastewater research facility coming along

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

A water-testing research facility that Fleming College is building at the Minden Hills wastewater treatment plant off Deep Bay Road is getting closer to operation.

Minden Hills councillors were visited by Brent Wootten, the college's vice president of applied research and innovation, during their June 27 meeting, Wootten giving them an update on the project.

Last summer, council granted the school's Centre for Advancement of Water and Wastewater Technologies permission to construct the facility at the site. It will be used by companies who deal with wastewater processing to test out their new technologies.

As Wootten told councillors, a structure to house research activity has been installed at the site, and the college is now waiting on an Environmental Compliance Approval from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, from which it is hoping to see expedited review and approval. Fleming College

will receive \$150,000 in federal funding for research equipment at the facility, including a disc centrifuge system, inline total suspended solids meter and a remote supervisory control and data acquisition system.

"The equipment will allow the facility to provide ideal testing conditions in a controlled setting," a report from Wootten reads.

He also told councillors there was growing interest in the facility.

"We currently have 10 companies who are eager to come to Minden and finish the R and D (research and development)," Wootten said. Those companies will be testing advanced, on-site wastewater treatment technologies.

"Obviously the funding is recognition at the national level that what's going on here is really important," said Mayor Brent Devolin.

"I'm glad this is happening, particularly in a rural community," said Councillor Pam Sayne, who's spoken repeatedly about the need for more environmentally friendly and technologically advanced septage disposal in the area. "I think this is the answer to long-term planning."



Minden packed for Canada Day party

The Kid's Fishing Derby was met with success with almost 300 children registered participating. Children were allowed to choose one prize out of hundreds that were donated by various local organizations and businesses. / VANESSA BALINTEC Staff



New this year to the Canada Day celebration were "Hoverball Archery" and "Beat the Bucket" all-day interactive stations, which had non-stop line-ups by parents and their children.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Public Welcome

Meetings are held at 9:00 AM in the Minden Council Chambers, 7 Milne Street.

July 25 – Combined COTW/Regular Council Meeting

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit www.minden hills.ca

Note: Council meetings are reduced to one (1) for the months of July, August and December

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Boat Shrink Wrap is accepted at the Scotchlinc Waste Disposal Site from **July 1st to July 31st only**.

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The Township is currently accepting resumes for the following positions:

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CALL FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS – LOCHLIN COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Township of Minden Hills is looking for volunteers to participate as members on the Lochlin Community Centre Advisory Committee for the 2019-2022 term of Council.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in participating, please submit a completed Advisory Committee Application Form in person, by mail or email to:

Lochlin Community Centre Advisory Committee Application

Clerk's Department, 2nd floor

Township of Minden Hills

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359

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Email: sprentice@minden hills.ca

Application deadline has been extended to Friday July 12, 2019 by 12:00 noon.

For an Application Form or for more information, please contact Vicki Bull at vbull@minden hills.ca, 705-286-1260 ext. 215 or Shannon Prentice at sprentice@minden hills.ca, 705-286-1260 ext. 313.



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IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

The 2019 Final Residential tax bills were mailed on June 14, 2019.

If you have not received your bill(s) prior to the July due date, please contact our office. Tax bills for owners on the Ten Month Preauthorized Payment Plan will be mailed later in June.

The Final tax bill will be payable in two installments; July 19th, 2019 and September 20th, 2019. This bill has been calculated using the 2019 assessment multiplied by the 2019 applicable tax rate(s), less the interim billing amount.

Payments received after June 5th may not be reflected on your tax bill. Please note that any overdue amounts do not include penalty/interest for July. Please contact our office for a current balance.

The Final Commercial/Industrial/Multi-residential tax bills are anticipated to be mailed in August. Bills with both commercial and residential assessments will be mailed together at that time.

Property owners are responsible to provide to the Municipal Office written notification of any address change.

Failure to receive your tax bill does not exempt penalty charges from being applied to a tax account.

MH expresses support for day against human trafficking

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Nancy Barnes visited Minden Hills councillors during their June 27 meeting, asking they support Project ONRoute, a human trafficking awareness campaign taking place throughout the month of July.

"It's an important topic that everybody should be aware of, because it's a growing industry in the world," Barnes, a member of the Business and Professional Women of Ontario, told council. "It's a \$35-billion crime taking place in the world."

It is estimated there are some 30 million victims of human trafficking worldwide, mostly women and girls, taken mostly for the purposes of forced labour and sex. In recent years, it's become clear it's a growing problem in Canada and Ontario, with Durham Region a hotbed of human trafficking activity. According to information from the Project ONRoute Campaign, 60 per cent of all human trafficking in Canada takes place along

the 400 series highways. During the month of July, the ONRoute travellers' stations along Ontario's highways will be showing a video awareness campaign on human trafficking, culminating in a day of action of July 30, with gatherings at the ONRoute stations.

"I'm asking the town to be aware of human trafficking," Barnes said, adding she was requesting the township support the campaign through the means at its disposal.

"We're fortunate that our local MPP and local representative Minister [Laurie] Scott is a champion within the province, including tabling legislation," said Mayor Brent Devolin.

While a member of the Opposition during the previous Liberal government, Scott tabled a private members bill called Saving the Girl Next Door Act, which among other protections for victims, recommended giving them the option to sue their traffickers, rather than having to go through the trauma of reliving their experience in a courtroom. Scott's bill became the basis for the anti-human trafficking legislation eventually passed by the government.

"Certainly, I'm municipally, individually



Nancy Barnes visited Minden Hills councillors on June 27, asking them to support a month-long awareness campaign against human trafficking. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

supportive to get the word out, and awareness and education is the first step," Devolin said, who added there were a number of things the township could do, including promoting the campaign on its social media channels.

"We're fortunate that Laurie Scott has been promoting understanding of the issues

going on in our communities, small, urban and rural communities, and the word needs to get out there more," said Councillor Pam Sayne, who suggested the township might put something on its electronic sign outside the fire hall along Highway 35.

County councillors to consider governance review

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Haliburton County councillors will consider having a governance review of the county and its four lower-tier municipalities conducted by a third party.

Councillors had a lengthy discussion on the issue during a June 26 meeting, where they received a report on a shared services/

collaboration review completed by the chief administrative officers of the five local governments, along with department heads.

The report included an inventory of numerous existing collaborations between the municipalities – from shared training and information-sharing among bylaw staff to a county-wide firefighter recruit program to joint tendering for roads department materials such as salt and hot mix, and activities

such as surveying and traffic counting.

There are also a number of roads maintenance agreements in place between municipalities in different areas of the county.

"A lot of times, there's not a dollar figure attached to the collaboration," county CAO Mike Rutter told councillors, explaining it was difficult to produce exact financial figures when it came to the amount of money these collaborations were saving, and thus there were no financial figures in the report. "I think these collaborations have been working, that they've been saving a lot of money," Rutter said.

The report also included a number of areas the CAOs had identified for potential collaboration, larger scale ideas such as a county-wide building department, county-wide procurement department, a county-wide or shared fire department, county-wide waste contracts and a county-wide economic development department.

"There has been no effort made to analyze these suggestions in great detail," the report from Rutter reads. "In most cases, it is recommended that external resources be used to study the service area and make specific recommendations. When county council established this process, there was some discussion about including a review of service levels provided in each jurisdiction. We have not included this detail in this report, but that will be an important aspect to be studied if any of the recommendations are to be investigated in more detail."

"My initial thought is our lower tiers, and yourself, are busy enough," Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy said to Rutter, adding he thought the county should be using an outside expert for any further investigation or creation of new potential governance models.

"There's a whole conversation about community and philosophy," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt.

Moffatt has stressed repeatedly that studies she's read have concluded that amalgamations often don't save money, and that sometimes amalgamated governments wind up costing more to operate. "Equally important is what we could gain and what we could lose as communities."

Moffatt said she realized there was an appetite for consistent bylaws across the board throughout the county, and that some people

would not care if some of the county's smallest communities such as Cardiff or Oxtongue Lake lost their identity in that process.

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and County Warden Liz Danielsen said she shared Moffatt's concerns about loss of community identity and local culture.

"The assumption by the public is that we're going to save money if we go to amalgamation," Danielsen said, adding she did not believe that would be the case. Danielsen also said that whatever course county council chose to take, "we have to agree completely."

"I respect what Councillor Kennedy was saying about a third party," said Highlands East Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall. Ryall said he would like to see the items laid out in the report prioritized by the county's five chief administrative officers.

"This is like a shopping list," he said. "If it's an elephant, where do you take the first bite? And how big is that bite?"

Danielsen said she thought the CAOs had already done enough work on the subject, and that any further investigation would best be handled by a third-party consultant.

"There is more benefit in independent work," she said.

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts seemed content to maintain the status quo when it comes to how the county and its lower tiers operate.

"I don't know that I even want to do anything with this," Roberts said, indicating there were already a number of areas where the municipalities collaborate. "I'm not really ready to do anything right now."

Of the eight members of county council, Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin has been the most outwardly supportive of exploring an amalgamation-style model.

"I'm going to be the contrarian, obviously," Devolin said. "There are some real challenges coming for us as municipalities."

Devolin noted there is mounting pressure for municipalities to be able to find people qualified for highly specialized jobs. "I'm not sure going forward that we can continue to fill those positions. I think we're going to hit a wall."

Devolin said the same of asset management, the long list of equipment the province mandates that municipalities must replace on a regular basis. "I think on that side, we're

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Outside expert would conduct governance review

from page 4

going to run into a wall too . . . I think these are two big structural things that are not going to allow us to stay where we're at."

Devolin also said the process in his mind was not necessarily about cost savings.

"My interest is value and functionality," he said, making a vehicular analogy. "There's not many of us that would walk on the lot and buy the cheapest car, because it fails our values test."

Moffatt reiterated that an amalgamation would not be the straight-forward process some people think it would be.

"If anyone thinks the county's going to amalgamate, and have just one staff structure, and one CAO . . . they're not living in the real world," she said.

Moffatt, who's talked about a made-in-Haliburton-County solution that would not necessarily be a single-tier amalgamation, said ideally she'd like to see a process where two or three model options could be presented to the public.

"I can't figure out how to get us there," she said. "It has to be through a third-party."

Most councillors seemed to express an interest in hiring a third-party expert for further work, with Highlands East Mayor Dave Burton and Minden Hills Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell not present for the conversation.

"This is a discussion we're going to have for the balance of this term," Devolin said.

Rutter told councillors that the CAOs could work on prioritizing the list, but that he thought it would be helpful if council chose a governance model first.

"I wouldn't want to invest much in this list, until you've had that conversation," he said, adding that the four lower-tier councils would also need to be consulted as part of any review. "It's not just a county council discussion, at all."

"I think it fundamentally starts there, and I think the sooner you answer that question, the better," Rutter said, adding that having a government that appears to be in flux could affect staff attraction and retention.

Rutter said any review would also need to involve public meetings and community consultation.

"I also have concerns about going out and asking the public what they want," said Danielsen, adding she didn't think many residents understood the true intricacies of amalgamation. "A lot of them really don't have

the right information to start with."

As he has before, Devolin re-iterated that if the county does not do some restructuring on its own, he fears that restructuring could be mandated upon it by the province.

"My worst fear is that somebody external will impose a new construct on us, and it will be the worst thing it could be," he said.

Devolin also noted that many councillors have connections to municipal staff throughout the county.

"They're our friends, neighbours, and family," he said.

Ultimately, council requested another report come back from Rutter, one which will look at prioritization of the collaboration items, and the creation of a process should council decide to undertake the services of a third-party expert.

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Independent review

HALIBURTON COUNTY councillors should proceed with the commissioning of a third-party governance review for the county and its lower-tier municipalities, but only if the political will exists to actually do something with the results.

Back in February, council instructed staff to perform a shared services review, essentially an inventory of areas where the county and its four lower-tier townships – Dysart et al, Minden Hills, Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East – already collaborate or share resources. This includes things like some joint training, joint tendering on roads materials, cross-border road maintenance agreements, shared software and so forth. A staff report also included suggestions for more formal, larger scale collaborations, such as a countywide building department, or countywide waste contracting.

Last week, councillors received the report and discussed what the next steps should be. There was discussion of, and seemingly quite a bit of support for, hiring a third-party consultant to conduct a review of the structure of the local government. Another staff report outlining a process for conducting that work will come back to council. It is something the county should proceed with, so long as that study doesn't end up just collecting dust bunnies somewhere.

The prospect of single-tier governance was much discussed during last fall's municipal election campaign. Certainly there is an appetite for amalgamation among many county residents. That said, there are also those who oppose it. As has been written in this space before, while cost savings may be one reason some residents favour the idea, it is not

certain there would be substantial cost savings, and some members of county council certainly contend there would be none.

A more pressing reason for the creation of single-tier is consistent policy and bylaws across the board. Currently, municipal regulations are a hodgepodge in the county, with bylaws and fees varying from lower-tier township to lower-tier township. Establishing consistent policy is undeniably logical.

It is important that any further work on the subject be done by an outside

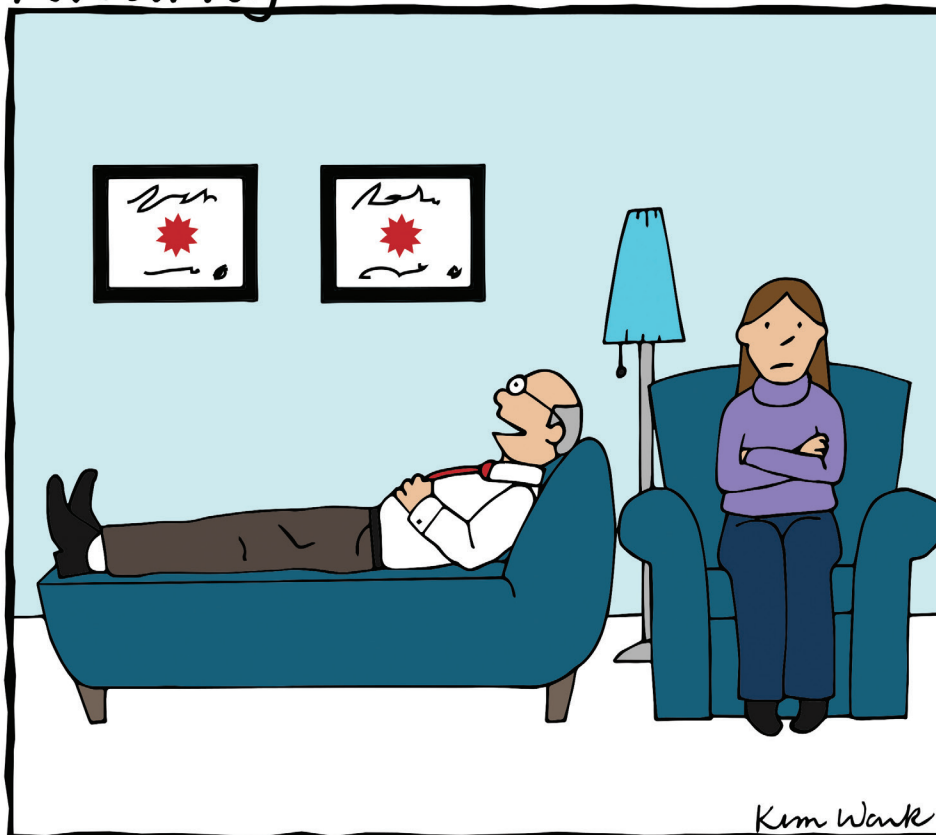
expert – an independent third party. Independence is important because both municipal councillors and staff are too personally vested in potential outcomes. Those outcomes could potentially change the configuration of council, electoral boundaries and the number of overall

**CHAD INGRAM**
Reporter

municipal seats in the county. They could affect staffing levels, and mean reconfigured staffing structures or job losses. As was mentioned at last week's meeting, in the small community of Haliburton County, councillors often have personal connections to at least some municipal staff somewhere along the line, whether they be neighbours, friends or family. There is too much that is personal, there is too much that is emotional. And that's why the objectiveness of a third party would be necessary going forward.

A governance review should include widespread public consultation, as well as consultation with the lower-tier councils. However, if this is going to be a situation where years of discussion lead to the commissioning of a study that is then never used, then county councillors shouldn't bother. They should save their time, our time and everybody's money.

Kwarky



"Thanks for switching. My back was killing me."

Putting your foot in it

LATER THIS week, Jenn and I will be going hiking. This is the one outdoors activity we have in common, since she does not enjoy canoeing, boating, fly fishing, hunting, target and clay pigeon shooting, orienteering, shooting cans with slingshots or practicing archery.

Instead, she loves hiking, which is the white bread of outdoors sports. And, therefore, so do I.

Hiking, as a pastime, is as simple as it gets. In fact, hiking is what people in less developed countries call walking long distances.

Basically, you put on a pack and you walk through the woods on hiking trails seeing new things, swatting new mosquitoes and covering as many kilometres as you are comfortable with.

It's a wonderful and healthy way to be active and enjoy the outdoors – 10 kilometres of swatting mosquitoes, black flies and deer flies is the equivalent of two circuits around the Tour de France.

In fact, hiking is perhaps the most fun way you can have outside – if you cannot, for some reason, be canoeing, boating, fly fishing, hunting, target or clay pigeon shooting, orienteering, shooting cans with slingshots or practicing archery. Not that I'm bitter.

If you are going to get serious about hiking – which you must do if your partner does not enjoy canoeing, boating, fly fishing, hunting, target or clay pigeon shooting, orienteering, shooting cans with slingshots or practicing archery – you need a good pair of boots. Frankly, lacing up a good pair of boots is the only exciting thing about hiking.

Hiking without a good pair of hiking boots is like licking shredded cheese directly off the grater. Yes, it can be done, but sooner

or later, you are going to regret it. Don't ask how I know.

A good pair of hiking boots must have two qualities: they must fit comfortably and have enough tread to grip the terrain you are walking over.

I leaned this a few years back when we went backpacking over miles and miles of slippery rocks covered in horrible tasting moss. I only found out it tasted horrible because every time I slipped face first on the rocks I got a mouthful.

Since then, I have invested in a better pair of hiking boots and this has made the difference when it comes to the amount of moss I consume. A good pair of hiking boots will keep you upright on the trail and, if they fit you as they should reduce or even eliminate blisters altogether.

Going bare foot would also eliminate blisters but enhance the act of toe stubbery – which is an old English term for "Egads! I hit my #%\$@! toe on the rock beneath that horrible tasting moss!"

Which leads me to the third thing good boots do – they protect your feet and ankles.

All these things, you'll note, are practical applications that have literally nothing to do with high fashion – just like me.

In fact, never in the history of the hiking boots has anyone worn them down a runway during International Fashion Week. But it's not because designers are not trying. Some companies are now producing hiking shoes and boots that are both functional and cool looking.

That's all very well and good but I don't need that.

In fact, I don't care at all about how a hiking boot looks, so long as it has a good sole.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

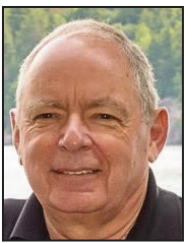
The good, the bad and the cuddly

I NEED TO CONFESS: I have harboured bad thoughts about chipmunks. Murderous thoughts.

I know, chipmunks are cute and fun-loving little critters. They have drawn millions of smiles as the Disney characters Chip and Dale and have enthralled children in comic books and video games.

And Alvin and The Chipmunks made chipmunks world famous with their blockbuster hit *The Chipmunk Song* ("Christmas Don't Be Late") in which Alvin wishes for a hula hoop.

I never really took to that song, preferring instead *The Twisted Chipmunk Song*, which headlined the 2000 Christmas album *Chipmunks Roasting on an Open Fire*.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

The reality of chipmunks is that they are rodents. Mice and rats are rodents and people don't consider them cute and cuddly.

Also, chipmunks dig holes. Not just holes, but holes that are connected by tunnelling systems as elaborate as the catacombs of Paris or Rome.

Despite having millions of acres of forest to dig in, chipmunks prefer to conduct their excavations in gardens, lawns and septic beds. Lovingly planted seeds and bulbs have no hope of sprouting in chipmunk territory.

When they are not digging up my property, chipmunks are eating. They never get full. National Geographic Kids magazine says that a single chipmunk can gather 165 acorns in a day.

They carry off acorns, stolen bird seed, and anything else they can mooch, in cheek pockets that can stretch three times the size of their heads.

Many people view chipmunks as social creatures, animated and friendly and always willing to participate in a friendly game of tag. They often are seen chasing each other but these are not friendly games of tag. They are angry, hot pursuits to recover food one chipmunk has stolen from another.

Chipmunks also are not friendly with other critters. They are at constant war with the blue jays who visit our feeding stations.

They chase the jays off the seed piles then squeak and chipper at them not to come back. The jays sit in the trees, jeering loudly in protest and waiting for an opening to swoop in and grab a mouthful of feed.

There are pauses in the war when the chipmunks have filled their cheeks with seed and must return to their catacombs to store it for winter hibernation. Unlike bears they don't sleep through the winter but get up often to eat their stored food, then go back to sleep.

They sleep well on their full stomachs. The National Wildlife Federation says that a sleeping chipmunk's heart rate slows to four beats a minute compared with the hyper rate of 350 beats a minute when they are awake.

All this is interesting information but it does little to subdue my murderous thoughts, which increase when I think about chipmunk reproduction rates. Female chipmunks can give birth twice a year, producing two to eight pups each time.

I have counted as many as eight chipmunks around the bird feeding stations. I calculate that if half of them are females producing eight pups each twice a year, that's 64 new little chipmunks to put up with each year.

These calculations nourish my murderous thoughts. A possible 64 new chipmunks a year over 10 years is 640 chipmunks, and so on.

Far too many. I need to start reducing their numbers. Rat poison? Mechanical traps? Pellet gun?

I have read that you can buy fox urine and spread it around their tunnelling areas. They sniff it, fear that a fox is waiting to eat them and move away.

That sounds like the product of a super-charged marketing imagination. Besides how does anyone go about collecting pee from foxes?

As I ponder these thoughts, I hear a chipping sound and feel something at my foot.

I look down and see standing on the toe of my shoe a cheery looking chipmunk. He stares up at me with bright, saintly eyes and squeaks happily.

I'm not fluent in chipmunk talk but he seems to be saying: "Why so glum, chum? Relax and have some fun. Wanna play a game of tag?"

He jumps off my shoe and races toward the bird feeders.

That little face is so adorable. My heart melts; my murderous thoughts evaporate.

Some rodents are cute and cuddly.

The T-spine

ONE DEFINITION OF posture is the position in which someone holds his or her body when standing or sitting. Somewhere along the line we've added the qualification of "good" or "bad" when it comes posture. We're all built a little differently so I believe it is safe to say that if you're experiencing physical pain or discomfort chances are you're suffering from some kind of bad posture. These days much of that can be blamed on sitting too much in a hunched forward position. This position tends to adversely affect the T-Spine.

The T-Spine, also known as the thoracic spine, is the longest part of our spine. It has 12 vertebrae, and joins the cervical section of spine that is above the T-spine with the lumbar spine below. Essentially, the T-spine runs from the base of the neck to the abdomen. It is the only part of the spine that attaches to the rib cage. Its role is to protect the spinal cord, and anchor the rib cage. Different from the cervical and lumbar parts of the spine that are built for mobility, the thoracic spine is built more for stability.

While it is not as common as neck or lower back pain, we can experience pain in the region of the T-spine. The main causes tend to be as a result of the neck-jutting forward, or the carrying of heavy backpacks (this is more common for children - some of those backpacks are bigger than them).

As with any type of pain it's best to avoid it in the first place. Introduce preventative measures in our lifestyles such as avoiding the causes of the problem in the first place and/or keeping the T-spine strong. Here are some ideas:

- Implement changes to your sitting habits. When possible, stand, sit on the floor, or sit on an exercise ball.

- Lie on the floor on your back for a few minutes every day. Focus on keeping your head in a neutral position with your shoulders touching the floor.

- Practice the Head Ramp movement daily. This exercise helps to bring your head into alignment with your neck and shoulders. It's as simple as establishing good posture (back



LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness

straight, shoulder back) then dropping your chin a little bit and gently slide your head back slightly. You may create a double chin but it will be gone in a moment, I promise.

There are many other great exercises to keep your T-spine function well. If you're a yoga person the cat/cow (or cat/camel) is a great one to do. Have a look on line for videos that can help keep your T-spine in good shape.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



Travelling in time

More than 50 classic cars were on display at the June 27 cruise night which included a barbecue hosted by CarQuest in Minden. The Haliburton Highlands Time Travellers club holds cruises and mini-cruises throughout the summer./SUE TIFFIN Staff

Book of the Month - July



The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore by Kim Fu

A group of young girls descend on Camp Forevermore, a sleepaway camp in the Pacific Northwest, where their days are filled with swimming lessons, friendship bracelets, and campfire songs. Excited and nervous, they set off on an overnight kayaking trip to a nearby island. Before the night is over, however, they find themselves stranded, with no adults to help them survive or guide them home.

The Lost Girls of Camp Forevermore traces these five girls—Nita, Kayla, Isabel, Dina, and Siobhan—through and beyond this fateful trip. We see them through successes and failures, loving relationships and heartbreaks; we see what it means to find, and define, oneself, and the ways in which the same experience is refracted through different people. In diamond-sharp prose, Kim Fu gives us a portrait of friendship, the families we build for ourselves—and the pasts we can't escape.

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Graduation

Class of 2019



The class of 2019 with last names from A-L: Ashley Ackerblade, Kurtis Adams, Denver Allore, Kade Bain, Tannis Bain-Gross, Griffen Baldry, Gabriel Bales, Jenna Barber, Jordan Barber, Ati Baricz, Noah Black, Jaxson Campbell, Ethan Carl, Parker Casey, Kathryn Christian, Sydney Churko, Aidan Coles, Destiny Cooper, Nicole Cox, Owen Craftchick, Tanner Crang, Nolan Davidson, Kyle Davis, Jordan Dewitt, Nikolas Dollo, Steven Dudgeon, Ethan Evans, Jamie Evans, Drew Foster, Austin French, Dylan Garbutt, Jackson Gartshore, Owen Gilbert, Natalya Gimon, Alicia Gottschalk, Dylan Gullins, Lucas Haedicke, Jessica Hannah, Kiefer Harrison, Arden Harrop, David Hartwick, Helena Haywood, Coleman Heaven, Joey Hutchinson, Jesse Johnston, Colby Lambshead, Kiana Lavergne, Caden Little, Liam Little, Ben Livingstone.

Class of 2019 prepares for the next adventure

Nick Toth gives the valedictorian's address. He said that Haliburton High would be a part of the grads' hearts forever. /JENN WATT Staff



JENN WATT
Editor

Family and friends came together at the Athletic Centre on Thursday evening, beaming with pride and excitement as the class of 2019 officially graduated from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Ninety-five students graduated this year, and vice-principal David Waito reminded those assembled in the gym of the importance of the ceremony.

"It is a rite of passage. Rites of passage are a time when we formally leave one stage of our lives and enter into another. In our culture, high school graduation is regarded as

the time when we finish adolescence and begin adulthood and it is for this reason that we call tonight's ceremony a commencement – denoting something of importance is about to commence, or begin," he said.

School board trustee Gary Brohman, who

“ I know the strength that each of [the graduates] is capable of. ”
— VALEDICTORIAN NICK TOTH

see page 9



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Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Graduation

Class of 2019



The class of 2019 with last names from M-Z: Dakota MacDonald, Cassidy Mahler, Vaibhavi Marathe, Senna Marra, Liam McAlister, Liam McCracken, Dustyn McCready-DeBruin, Maya Meraw, Sara Merritt, Freya Moran, Brody Morrison, Louis Muenzel, Shelby Nimigon, Rachael Norman, Riley Norman, Sam Olliffe, Jacob O'Neill, Becca Pacey, Ainsley Pascoe, Ian Plumb, Ben Prentice, Josie Quigley, Kadie Raimey, Daniel Rivard, Denniella Rivard, Dane Roylance, Logan Roylance, Drew Rupnow, Chloe Samson, Carter Semach, Carson Sisson, Connor Spence, Samantha Steffensen, Cole Stiles, Lexie Tait, Drew Todd, Nick Toth, Mykayla Tripp, Alicia Villamere, Shawn Walker, Brayden Warburton, Austin Weller, Chaz Whitehead, Karley Wilson, Ben Wruth.



HHSS principal Chris Boulay speaks to the graduating class of 2019. The Athletic Centre was packed with well-wishers for the graduation ceremony on Thursday, June 27.

from page 8

was once principal of HHSS, bestowed three messages upon the grads: use your voice to make the world better; think big, but set realistic goals; and practice gratitude.

"Make sure the glass is always half full," he said, advising grads to write down three things they were thankful for each night before bed.

Principal Chris Boulay called the class of 2019 "our best-case scenarios," who had often overcome adversity and challenge to succeed. Adding humour to his speech, he crafted some hashtags for the group: #GraduatesBeYou; #IgnoreTheDoubters; #BeStrong; and #Appreciate.

Valedictorian Nick Toth reminded his peers of the many firsts they've had over the past four years – first job, first time driving, first friendships or relationships. He remembered sitting in orientation in 2015, thinking that 2019 was so far away. Now, he said, 2015 seems long ago.

Toth said though he couldn't predict the future, he knew the mettle of his classmates.

"I know each and every one of the people graduating ... I know the strength that each of them is capable of," he said.

He thanked everyone who came out, saying he hoped the class had made them all proud.

"We proved ourselves yesterday, we have proved ourselves today, and I know without a doubt we will prove ourselves tomorrow. That is what a Hawk does, after all."

“

Make sure the glass is half full.

— GARY BROHMAN

”

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HHSS Honours and Awards 2019

Award Recipients

Ashley Ackerblade, Denver Allore, Tannis Bain-Gross, Griffen Baldry, Jenna Barber, Jordan Barber, Sydney Churko, Aidan Coles, Destiny Cooper, Nicole Cox, Natalya Gimon, Dylan Gullins, Lucas Haedicke, Jessica Hannah, Kiefer Harrison, Arden Harrop, Helena Haywood, Coleman Heaven, Liam Little, Dakota MacDonald, Vaibhavi Marathe, Liam McAlister, Maya Meraw, Freya Moran, Louis Muenzel, Sam Olliffe, Ainsley Pascoe, Josie Quigley, Denniella Rivard,

Chloe Samson, Carter Semach, Drew Todd, Nick Toth, Alicia Villamere, Karley Wilson

Perfect Attendance

Vaibhavi Marathe

School Letters

Natalya Gimon, Arden Harrop, Liam Little, Maya Meraw

Governor General's Academic Medal

Vaibhavi Marathe

Lieutenant Governor General's Award For Community Service

Liam Little

Specialist High Skills Major

Hospitality and Tourism

Liam Little

Environment

Ati Baricz, Kiefer Harrison, Caden Little, Brody Morrison, Louis Muenzel, Dane Roylance

Extended French Certificate

Ashley Ackerblade, Aidan Coles, Natalya Gimon, Lucas Haedicke, Coleman Heaven, Maya Meraw, Drew Rupnow, Lexie Tait, Nick Toth, Alicia Villamere

Honour Society

Aidan Coles, Dylan Garbutt, Natalya Gimon, Kiefer Harrison, Arden Harrop, Helena Haywood, Coleman Heaven, Vaibhavi Marathe, Maya Meraw, Louis Muenzel, Josie Quigley, Samantha Steffensen, Lexie Tait, Nick Toth, Karley Wilson

To be eligible for Honour Roll you must have an average of 80% or higher in your top six senior courses taken in your graduating year (they do not all have to be grade 12 courses). If you have achieved Honours in all four years at HHSS, you become a member of the Honour Society. To be eligible for Ontario Scholar you must have an average of 80% or higher in your top six grade 12 courses, no matter what year they are taken in.

Valedictorian

Nick Toth

Awards And Scholarships

Brenda Ann Chambers Award

Donor: The Estate of Brenda Ann Chambers

Recipient: Kiefer Harrison

Byron Bain Award

Donor: Curry Chevrolet Buick GMC Ltd.

Recipient: Lucas Haedicke

C. Jean Levis Memorial Award For Mathematics

Donor: The Levis Family

Recipient: Denver Allore

Canadian History Award

Donor: Curry Chevrolet Buick GMC Ltd.

Recipient: Nick Toth

Canadian Parents For French - Core French Award

Donor: Canadian Parents for French, Haliburton Chapter

Recipient: Arden Harrop

Canadian Parents For French - Extended French Award

Donor: Canadian Parents for French, Haliburton Chapter

Recipient: Maya Meraw

Cooperative Education Program Award

Donor: Chris Duchene

Recipient: Tannis Bain-Gross

Dale Robinson Award

Donor: Dale Robinson

Recipient: Liam Little

Dawson Hamilton Memorial Award

Donor: Matthew Duchene

Recipient: Carter Semach

Edge Imaging Highlander Yearbook Award

Donor: Edge Imaging

Recipient: Destiny Cooper



Piper Andrew Mansfield leads the students in to their graduation, as is the tradition at HHSS.

Congratulations to all on your achievements.



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HHSS Honours and Awards 2019



Award recipients for the HHSS graduating class of 2019. /JENN WATT Staff

Environmental Leadership Award

Donor: Paul and Sharon Morissette
Recipients: Kiefer Harrison

Eric Nystedt Memorial Award (Female)

Donor: Minden Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police
Recipient: Dakota MacDonald

Eric Nystedt Memorial Award (Male)

Donor: Minden Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police
Recipient: Aidan Coles

Ethel L. Curry Award

Donor: The late Miss Ethel L. Curry
Recipient: Nicole Cox

Extended French Award

Donor: Cleve and Liane Roberts
Recipients: Maya Meraw

F.D. Herlihey Memorial Award

Donor: The late F. Harold Herlihey
Recipient: Maya Meraw

Gary G. Brohman Award For Student Leadership

Donor: Gary Brohman
Recipient: Ashley Ackerblade

Gary G. Brohman Award For Student Leadership

Donor: Gary Brohman
Recipient: Liam Little

Gloria Lemieux Award

Donor: Estate of the late Gloria Lemieux
Recipients: Liam Little, Maya Meraw, Chloe Samson and Nick Toth

Gloria McCormack Memorial Award

Donor: Family and Friends of Gloria McCormack
Recipient: Jenna Barber



Vice-principal David Waito applauds from the stage during the graduation and awards ceremony at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

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HHS Honours and Awards 2019

of Jim and Eric Potter, Doreen and Rex Wilson

Recipient: Maya Meraw

Rod Henderson Baha'i Scholarship

Donor: Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Dysart et al

Recipients: Jordan Barber

Rosseter Award

Donor: Mrs. Louise Cooper

Recipient: Vaibhavi Marathe

Rotary Club Of Haliburton 50th Anniversary Award

Donor: Rotary Club of Haliburton

Recipient: Louis Muenzel

Rotary Club Of Haliburton Mathematics Scholarship

Donor: Rotary Club of Haliburton

Recipient: Maya Meraw

Rotary Club Of Minden Award

Donor: Rotary Club of Minden

Recipients: Aidan Coles and Natalya Gimon

Sarah Bloomfield Memorial Award

Donor: Elizabeth Bloomfield

Recipient: Karley Wilson

Specialist High Skills Major Award

Donor: Trillium Lakelands District School Board

Recipient: Caden Little

St. Paul's A.C.W. Practical Academic Life Skills Program Award

Donor: A.C.W. of St. Paul's Church, Minden

Recipient: Ainsley Pascoe

St. Paul's A.C.W. Workplace Studies Award

Donor: A.C.W. of St. Paul's Church, Minden

Recipient: Kiefer Harrison

Stuart W. Baker Memorial Award

Donor: Stephanie Metzger

Recipient: Vaibhavi Marathe

United Way Award

Donor: United Way, City of Kawartha



Vaibhavi Marathe received the Governor General's Academic Medal from principal Chris Boulay at the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School graduation ceremony on Thursday, June 27. The ceremony was well attended with parents, family and friends of the class of 2019./JENN WATT Staff

Lakes

Recipient: Cassidy Mahler

Year 4 Baking Course Award

Donor: Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Hospitality & Tourism Program

Recipient: Sydney Churko

Year 4 Drama Award

Donor: Drama Club of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School

Recipient: Nick Toth

Year 4 English Scholarship

Donor: Mrs. Chris Duchene

Recipient: Jessica Hannah



Best Wishes

to the

Class of 2019

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Common Room reopens as the Welch Family Room

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

“Thank you for joining us today, and I’m very excited to say, for the first time, to welcome you all to the Welch Family Room,” said Emily Stonehouse, Economic Development, Destination and Marketing Officer, and Supervisor of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

And so the space so often referred to as simply the Common Room was officially named.

The room located between the Minden library branch and the cultural centre, which includes the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Nature’s Place and the Minden Museum and Heritage Village is used for community events including children’s programming, workshops and meetings.

A contest to name the Common Room, first built as the town’s library in the 1980s, was launched at the beginning of the year hoping “for a name that captures the essence, culture and heritage of this community we call home; whether that be a person, a place, or an event,” according to the contest entry form.

“The judges did not have an easy choice, but from what I understand, deciding on the Welch Family Room simply felt right,” said Stonehouse, after announcing the name at an event held June 29. She noted that when Agnes Jamieson Gallery curator Laurie Carmount learned of the name chosen from submissions from the public that included two related to the Welch Family, she was reminded of a John Welch and Sons original sign that had been donated to the museum in the 1980s.

“Considering a large portion of our museum collection was donated by the Welch Family, and the majority of our Andre Lapine painting acquisitions were a direct result of Welch family involvement, we believed it would be fitting to use the actual historical family sign to welcome visitors to the space, and offer a tangible glimpse of history, thanks to the magnifying glass the Welch family has provided into our past, and our heritage,” said Stonehouse.

Mary Hamilton submitted the entry for the Welch Family. Her brother, who submitted an entry for Francis “Frank” Welch, was also in attendance for the naming ceremony.

Judges were Jack Brezina, Jim Mitchell and Pam Smith. The following short-list of entries feature those entries that honoured people. Additionally, “Rose Room,” honouring Minden’s connection to roses, was submitted by James Thomson and is available to read at the Welch Family Room.

Short list of entries:

The Annie Gainer Commons

Entry by Jaime Bilodeau and Margaret Graham

Annie Gainer, the daughter of Robert and Elisa Gainer and the eldest of 10 children was a local music teacher but also served as one of Minden’s first librarians, for more than 19 years.

“The Common Room has been a lot of things throughout the years but if you ask anyone who has been here for any time they will refer to it as the ‘Old Library,’” reads the entry. “It may not have had all the things the library has now, but I assure you it was just as important then as the current library is now.”

“That being said,” the entry continued, “Minden Hills has always paid homage to



Family, friends, and submission contestants were present during the Minden Cultural Room re-naming event. Emily Stonehouse, Minden Hills Cultural Centre supervisor, led the presentation and welcomed guests to the new Welch Family Room. /VANESSA BALINTEC Staff

our past, while looking ahead to the future. This is the reason we feel the Common Room deserves a name that reflects our past and those who helped shape our future. And in the meantime, perhaps casts some light onto those lesser-known individuals, integral to our development as a community.”

The submission noted that the word ‘the’ could be omitted from the entry, as using it exceeded the three-word limit, “but in the library world ‘the’ often doesn’t count.”

Benjamin E. Sawyer Room

Entry by James Sawyer

Benjamin E. Sawyer, according to the entry, built the first hotel in Minden in 1863 while his son James “Jim” Sawyer, “was one of the foremost experts of Algonquin Park – initially trapping and fur trading; authorities could never catch him so they made him one of the first park rangers in Algonquin Park since he knew it better than anyone. It is rumoured that his traps are still infamously hidden in the park.” Benjamin “Long-Ben” Sawyer, so nicknamed for his height, was Benjamin’s grandson and Jim’s son, and was reeve of Stanhope for 15 years, responsible for financing and building the first telephone system in Haliburton County.

“The Sawyer family has a long heritage in the Minden-Haliburton-Algonquin Park area; always introducing progressive change and often being the first to act,” reads the entry. “Minden has reinvented itself several times due to fires, fights, and tragedy – it is a place that many Canadians have roots and if it weren’t for the incredible effort of documenting our past and sharing these stories, much of it would be lost in time.”

The entrant, James Sawyer, said he had been studying family genealogy over the past few years.

“Like Minden, the Sawyers are not perfect and the several rejuvenating opportunities have allowed for new beginnings and triumphs,” he wrote.

Harry Cowan Room

Entry by Matt Wesley

Harry was born in Carnarvon in 1912, and skipped high school to help his family. When his mother died in childbirth in 1928, he helped raise eight younger siblings, working in lumber camps in the winter to help at home. He was part of the road gang building Highway 35 during the Depression, earn-

ing \$4.50 a month, before joining Hewitt Transport, working long hours to pick up mail and provisions from the train for area residents. In 1941, he joined the army, serving in Europe until 1945. He worked for the LCBO from 1952 for more than 25 years.

“Christmas Eve of 1960 found him on the roof of the old Dollo’s building with a fire hose, fighting the fire that destroyed a good chunk of his beloved community before other crews could get there,” reads the entry. “He got off the roof before it caved in.”

Harry volunteered for the Rotary Club, the Legion Branch 129, and as a coach at first for school teams and then for the Minden Monarchs, who went to a provincial championship under his guidance. He was known for ensuring his players wouldn’t go without if they couldn’t afford equipment.

“There are many in the community who had a set of skates, or baseball glove provided by Harry,” reads the entry. “If he could help or make a difference, he did. Expecting nothing back.”

Harry was a bachelor when he died age 54.

“...His last gift to the community was leaving the majority of his life savings to the Minden Hospital,” reads the entry. “It helped build the new hospital that stands there today. Harry’s life spanned a great deal of change in the community, born on a subsistence farm nor long removed from the wilderness, into the modern era. The entire time spent serving his friends, family and neighbours until the end.”

Francis “Frank” Welch Room

Entry by John Welch

Frank Welch was the great-grandson of Samuel and Elizabeth Welch, who settled in the Minden area from England in 1874, and the son of John Welch, who owned a blacksmith and cabinet-making shop that evolved into making coffins. Frank lived from 1904 to 1973. He graduated in 1931 from the Ontario school of embalming, becoming a licensed funeral director. When John died in 1937, Frank took over the John Welch & Son funeral business, hosting funerals in his living room on the Welch homestead, which was located where the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home is today. An invoice from 1942 shows the cost of a funeral including casket, embalming, funeral coach, funeral notice, service and flowers totalled \$143.

Frank was the reeve of Minden from 1939

to 1946, the first president of the Canadian Red Cross, Minden Branch, and a municipal councillor at the time of his death in 1973.

“Frank was an avid art collector and became very good friends with Andre Lapine,” reads the entry. “Andre spent many nights at the Welch home after his painting trips to the Minden area. After Andre’s wife’s death in 1941, Frank and Lapine made an agreement that Lapine could stay at the Welch home for the rest of his life, in exchange Lapine would leave all his paintings to Frank.”

“Their friendship has a memorable ending that is a showcase in the community,” reads the entry. “Frank Welch bequeathed all 45 of Lapine’s paintings to the Town of Minden, and in 1981, due to the efforts of Agnes Jamieson, an art gallery named after her was opened in Minden. The gallery is now home to about 150 Lapine paintings, one of, if not, the biggest collection of his works anywhere.”

Joseph Burns Room

Entry by Deloris Bailey

(From “In Quest of Yesterday,” by Nila Reynolds)

The son of one of Minden’s original settlers, Joseph Burns was born in Minden in 1868. As a young child, “Joe” was blinded in an accident, and so attended the School for the Blind in Brantford, where he learned how to read braille.

“With its help he was able to study and educate his already keen mind far beyond the scope of many who enjoyed the use of two eyes,” reads the entry. “In his position, a less courageous man might have accepted help in rearing his family. Instead, Joe cultivated his small farm, located near the present Minden Hydro Office, until his market garden became the envy of agricultural enthusiasts throughout the whole area. In his leisure, he skillfully weaved all manner of boxes and baskets. Joe Burns’ weaving captured prizes at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto.”

Joe served on the Minden school board, and sat for five years on the township council.

“In Minden’s old town hall, his silver tongued oratory was sometimes the deciding factor in many of the heated political squabbles which from time to time erupted to disturb the peaceful tenor of life in the village,” reads the entry.

Welch family has long history in Minden

from page 14

Joseph Burns was also a poet. His recruiting poem, "Ye Men of Haliburton," was known by veterans during World War I.

"Reading a few of the memorable lines composed by Mr. Burns surviving in family scrapbooks and yellowing *Minden Echos*, one is best able to gauge the magnitude of the loss to posterity caused by the 1942 fire which destroyed the *Echo's* files," reads the entry. "Until his death in 1954, Joseph H. Burns had been a continuous contributor to the *Minden Echo's* Poet's Corner."

Welch Family Room

Entry by Mary Hamilton
Entry reprinted in full

"John Welch was born January 18, 1856 in Dorsetshire, England. He immigrated to Canada in 1874 with his parents Samuel and Elizabeth (Betsy) Welch and his siblings. John married Elizabeth Epton on Nov. 5, 1878. Together they had 14 children. They built the Welch house in the late 1800s which is the home of the Monk-Gray family.

John was a tradesman and blacksmith and became Minden's first undertaker. He had a blacksmith shop next to his home. He made wooden caskets for the Black Diphtheria Plague in 1886. John spent his time making fire irons, ice tongs, wagons, sleighs, and cutters. He made cant hooks and boom chains for the logging industry. Shoeing horses and oxen and repairing equipment comprised the bulk of his blacksmith trade. As well, he filled large orders of lumbering tools for Rathburns and the Gull River Company.



John Welch, part of the last generation of Welchs, and sister Mary Hamilton stand before tributes to their ancestor Francis "Frank" Welch, who took over the John Welch and Son funeral business. Unknowingly, John submitted an entry for Francis, while Mary submitted one for the Welch Family, as tribute to their descendants who have gone into medicine, farming, journalism, postal work, and blacksmith work among others in the Minden community beginning in the late 1800s. /VANESSA BALINTEC Staff

John Welch brought the Guy Fawkes ritual to Minden from England. An effigy of Guy Fawkes was stuffed with straw, soaked in kerosene with a pound of gunpowder buried in the middle. On the evening of Nov. 5, a torchlight procession passed through the

downtown as the replica was carried to the middle of main street and set on fire. This custom lasted from 1878 to 1935.

John and Elizabeth were active members of St. Paul's Anglican church where two stained glass windows hang in the church in

memory of them. He also belonged to the masonic lodge.

Their children were also successful. Walter was postmaster in Minden. Alice was the head nurse of the Red Cross Hospital in Bracebridge. William was a farmer. Louise owned the *Minden Echo* newspaper. Ethel worked at the post office. John worked on the Alaska Highway and later at the stone crushing company in Kirkfield. His house to this day remains near St. Paul's Anglican church. Harry was a blacksmith and worked with his father. William ran the boat to Gull Lake delivering groceries for his brother's store. Samuel had Welch's General Store where the Village Green is today. Francis (Frank) was owner and operator of John Welch and Son Funeral Home where Monk Funeral Home is today. He was clerk/treasurer of the County of Haliburton. He served as reeve of Anson, Hinden and Minden.

Frank rented space to renowned artist Andre Lapine and received from the artist more than 40 paintings. He donated the paintings to the municipality on the condition the council erect a building for them. Dr. Agnes Jamieson, a close friend, headed a committee and our gallery was built.

The Welch family contributed to the museum with many artifacts. My great grandfather's tools were on display at the Founding Family Day, July 30, 2016. The Welch family has deep roots in Minden and many descendants still live in Minden. The Welch family has contributed to the essence, culture and heritage of this community that is our home, Minden. I suggest we have the Common Room renamed Welch Common Room."

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Everyone can be a lake steward

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

Barb Elliot, professor at Fleming College’s eco-system management program, encouraged Kushog Lake residents to continue their efforts to ensure the health of Kushog Lake at the Kushog Lake Property Owners Association annual general meeting, held June 22.

Elliot, who has lived and worked in the Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes region since 1985, has been conducting water quality monitoring research with Fleming students on the lake annually since 2015. This monitoring has included an examination of various aspects of the lake, examining the microscopic life, the invertebrates (the bugs) that feed the web system, the chemistry and the temperature of the lake.

She acknowledged the strong stewardship efforts being made by Kushog residents and then presented the audience a tip with the challenges facing lakes’ ecosystems in the Highlands using the acronym WHEN: Water temperatures, Habitat loss, Excessive nutrients and Non-native species.

“So, if you remember that acronym, hopefully that will help you think about what’s going on ... and what we can do about it,” she said.

The concern for Kushog Lake related to rising water temperatures is how it can affect a cold water species such as lake trout. Or how warmer temperatures can introduce algae, which consumes oxygen and can displace other species. Maintain a natural shoreline, she said to the audience. This includes



Fleming College's professor in the ecosystem management program at the School of Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences Barb Elliot holds up a zoomed in shot of the non-native species, the spiny water flea, which is harmful to the health of lakes. Elliot was the guest speaker at the Kushog Lake Property Owners Association annual general meeting held Saturday, June 22 at the Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall. /DARREN LUM Staff

planting trees or keeping trees already on the shoreline to help provide shade, keeping the water temperature lower.

There is habitat loss created by the wakes, trailing behind large and fast moving boats. It also occurs from landscaping the shoreline, whether it’s removing native vegetation in favour of non-native species or even removing dead vegetation. She adds these changes not only change the habitat, but reduce it for animals and life forms that depend on it.

Excessive nutrients can be introduced with fertilizer for the lawn or by septic systems that are not working optimally – inspect them regularly, she said. If there is too much phosphorus and nitrogen, it can provide nutrients for algae to grow and take hold.

Non-native species have adverse affects on the native species.

Elliot said this starts at a microscopic level. Microscopic species set the foundation for the food web, starting with plants to small fish and so on. The native water flea is “critical” to so many other animals in the food web. The non-native spiny water flea feeds on the native species and does not have any natural predators. Cleaning boats is key to

preventing the transfer of the fleas and other non-native species.

Elliot highlighted the importance of the responsibility of residents to maintain Kushlog Lake because of its place along the top of the Trent Severn Waterway watershed.

This can be as simple as keeping areas around homes and the shoreline as natural as possible.

She admitted some decisions related to the lake is out of the residents’ control, but reminded the audience the power of how one action multiplied hundreds of times can have a major influence. For example, if each resident of Kushog Lake planted two trees close to the shore it could provide plenty of shade and lower the overall temperature of the lake.

Although the odds of resolving the challenges facing lakes seem daunting, Elliot assured the audience their efforts are making a difference and is assisting with the upward trend, as indicated in the monitoring data related to the long term view.



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JULY 11 – Haliburton Highlands Time Travelers Classic Vehicle Cruise Night
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JULY 17 – Fire Hall Open House 6:30 PM

JULY 19 – The 2019 American Canoe Association Open Canoe Slalom Nationals and the Canada/USA North American Championships – Minden Whitewater Preserve – 9:00 AM

JULY 22 – Morgan Davis, Blues Legend
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A spoonful of sugar

The cast of Mary Poppins rehearse "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" in preparation for the first production of the 20th Highlands Summer Festival that will feature five different plays starting June 30 to August 8. / VANESSA BALINTEC Staff



Mary Poppins, played by Beth Robertson, tells Bert, played by Carlo Bianchini, that she believes she has to leave the children without their knowledge to aid in their growth. Mary leaves the children with only a note left behind, saying perhaps one day they will see one another again.



It all adds up

The University of Waterloo's Centre of Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) tests for Grade 9, 10, and 11 students included more than 20 participating Haliburton Highlands Secondary School students. The school's top scorers by grade are Grade 9 student Jackson Wilson, who scored a school high 28 out of 40 (20/40 is good) in the Fryer Contest. Front from left are Grade 10 student Desi Davies, who took the Galois Contest, and Grade 11 student Melissa Brinkos, who took the Hypatia Contest. Other participants include Nakita Watson, from left, at back, Lily Austin Ward, Emma Mitchell, Holly Parish, James Alexander, Sam Hoenow, Brian Kim, Kiera Casey, William Craftchick, Nick Phippen, Monique Dulong, Olivia Johnson and Anthony Davis. Absent for the photo are Corin Gervais, Danielle Meraw, Megan Klose, RYanne Horsley, Breanna Jones and Charlotte Paton. The annual CEMC Contests are written by close to 250,000 students from more than 80 countries./DARREN LUM Staff

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Highlands Cinemas, owned by Keith Stata, seen here, is celebrating 40 years in business this year. /Photo courtesy of Matt Finlin

Highlands Cinemas celebrates 40th anniversary

Build it and they will come. He built it, and 40 years later they are still coming.

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by **JERELYN CRADEN**
Special to the Times

The marquee of the landmark Highlands Cinemas in Kinmount stands tall and proud on a hillside leading up to the unique, some say “magical,” five-screen cineplex and museum in the woods, built by local visionary Keith Stata.

“I was born loving film,” Stata said. He was six when he got his start as a theatre operator in the family woodshed. “The show ended when a skunk came in.”

Celebrating the cinema’s 40th anniversary on June 29, filmgoers enjoyed cake and the \$8.50 combo (popcorn, drink, and a chocolate bar) for just \$3. The extraordinary 4,000 square foot museum which is always part of the ticket price – a maze of movie memorabilia, the largest vintage movie projector collection in Canada dating back more than a century, original movie posters, more than 100 mannequins dressed in period clothing, Horror Hall with life-size monsters from every major horror film, Memory Lane displaying 10 decades of photos, headlines, clothing, and toys covering the past 100 years – continued to enliven the memories of older moviegoers and inspire the imaginations of the theatre’s younger fans.

But, it wasn’t always like this.

Back in 1979, thirty-two year old Stata, with years in the construction business, em-

braced his love of cinema and designed and built his Kinmount home which included a 58 seat theatre where the rec room would have been.

“When we first opened, nobody came,” he said. “People thought there was just a TV in the basement because it was in a house.”

Gradually, word got out and, by the mid-1980s, Stata’s little theatre had outgrown its demand with people lining up along the highway. That’s when he decided to expand and add a second screen, then a third, fourth and, by 1996, a fifth screen, resulting in a total of 550 seats in theatres comparable in size to those found in multiplex cinemas, in an 18,500-square foot building.

“If you’re going to put in a theatre,” Stata said, “never mind five theatres in a town of 300 people, then you’re going to have to make it something so special that people will talk about it.” He did that, too.

As 450 small movie theatres across North America were closing their doors, Stata purchased a huge amount of equipment, projectors, and vintage décor – sold what he didn’t need, and with the rest turned Highlands Cinemas into an unforgettable destination experience.

Filled with art deco wall and ceiling pieces and large reupholstered seats, each of the five theatres transcends time for older audiences and instills a sense of wonder in younger ones.

“When cinemas were first designed,” Stata said, “theatres were really the cathedrals of the motion picture, decorated with gold, marble, velvet. The guy who didn’t have very much could go to this cathedral, this grandeur and watch this flicker on the screen, and hopefully identify with something he saw, and leave with a good memory.”

Stata’s visionary “world of cinema” made a great impression on Toronto filmmaker, Matt Finlin, director/partner at Door Knock Media. “Keith is part of the reason I wanted to make movies,” Finlin said. “I first went to his cinema in 1991 as a boy

“

I was born loving film.

— KEITH STATA

”

Theatre started with 58 seats

from page 20

and was taken by the building and the movie going experience he had created. Going to the movies is something that is fading in a world of Netflix and Amazon. Gathering in a space with people for a few hours to experience something as a collective is going away.” Finlin is working on a documentary on Highlands Cinemas and aims to share its story with movie audiences worldwide.

Without hesitation, Stata, a lover of fantasy said: “My favourite film The Time Machine.” The most popular film shown over 40 years at Highlands Cinemas: Pirates of the Caribbean. “We lucked out and got a print, and took in \$65,000 in tickets over a 10 to 12 week run.”

But, in 2012, a major challenge confronted Stata and his business partner, Roland Hamilton, when movie projectors went digital. “Either we had to borrow \$300,000 to put digital projectors in each of our five theatres or close,” Stata said. “Between a small grant from the government and money we were able to put together, we kept the cinema alive.”

“A lot of people have been coming up to me and saying, ‘we want to thank you for keeping this place open.’ It’s kind of gratifying to think that you’ve provided something that they’ve found interesting.”

What is also gratifying to Stata is taking care of his 41

rescue cats. “The humane society wouldn’t take them and neither would any other places,” he said. “Since they wound up here and would have died, they have been given a second chance and a new permanent home. And given the cost of food, housing, vet care, and considering my age, it is impossible for me to add any more.” The cats go through 5,000 cans of food a year. Feeding them and cleaning their litter takes Stata 42 hours a week.

And, their caregiver does more than that. Walking around the cinema grounds one can see the extensive system of enclosed cat bridges and play areas, as well as numerous houses that Stata has built for their comfort and enjoyment.

“The cats are more important than the theatre,” he said. “We’re only travelers. We’re only here for a short period of time. And movie projectors are more than just a hunk of metal. Projectors to me reflect the memories of millions and millions of people who sat in the dark and experienced that special moment, whether it was shedding a tear when Bambi’s mother was dying or Lana Turner in Imitation of Life.

Highlands Cinemas shows first-run movies in a world of nostalgia. Unique. Magical. It’s a place that takes you back in time and back again. No wonder Keith Stata’s favourite film is The Time Machine.

“

When cinemas were first designed, theatres were really cathedrals of the motion picture.

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4	7	8	6	9	1	2	3	5
5	9	1	3	4	7	6	8	2
8	6	2	9	1	5	3	7	4
7	4	3	2	8	6	5	9	1

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Lake association lends a hand at food bank

Recently, the Mountain Lake Property Owner's Association donated \$415 to the Minden Food Bank along with 16 boxes of personal and household cleaning products that were supplied by the Frank T. Ross Company, the manufacturers of the Nature Clean family of natural and environmentally safe products. Pictured are Joanne Barnes, Manager of the Minden Food Bank and Bruce MacMillan, the lake steward for Mountain Lake. /Submitted

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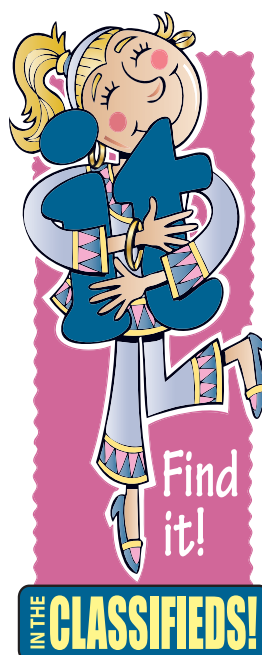
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classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline 4 pm Monday

560 ANNOUNCEMENTS




St. Stephen's Heritage Church
Algonquin Highlands

The Board of St. Stephen's Heritage Church are in the process of retiring several positions and are seeking additional members to serve.

Please contact Wanda Mole at
wanda.mole@bell.net
if you have any questions and may have an interest in becoming a member of the board.

Phone 705-489-2050

560 ANNOUNCEMENTS



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Remember

They are waiting
by the river,
Just across
the silent stream
Where sweet flowers
are ever blooming
And the banks are
ever green.

with The Times

640 IN MEMORIAM

650 OBITUARIES

650 OBITUARIES




Dale MacDonald
(Resident of Algonquin Highlands, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Thursday morning, June 27, 2019 in his 84th year. Beloved husband of the late Carolyn MacDonald (nee Farrow). Loving father of Cathy (Pat Neill) and the late Ross MacDonald. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren John (Leona), Amy (Terry Perrault), Matthew (Shantel), Shawn, Lyndsay, by his thirteen great grandchildren and by his great great granddaughter. Dale owned and operated Area Fire Equipment in Algonquin Highlands for many years. He enjoyed being involved with the Stanhope Fire Department and sitting at the Stanhope Airport watching the planes come and go while smoking his cigar.

Private Family Arrangements

A Private Gathering will take place at a later date. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services or the Stanhope Fire Department would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

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 "What we have here is the ability to communicate"

For the week of
 September 29 to October 6

No. 193



Surfing around?
 looking for great
 shopping sites
 online?
 Find it all
 right here!
<http://www.TOMarketPlace.com>

Main Street Minden, in the mid to late 30's, judging by the vintage of the vehicles. The shop at the right corner has a couple of flags attached to the front of the building, which suggests the gathering at the far end of the street may have to do with Dominion Day or a May 24 celebration. Others who have examined the picture say it looks like there has been a car accident and everyone is gathered round for a look. Note the "Idyl 'Our" Tea Room at the left with the Neilson Ice Cream sign. Our thanks to Tom Prentice for the loan of this post card. (Photo # 187)

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Legacy.

From humble beginnings in 1953, we have grown to become a recognized insurance brokerage in the Highlands. When my grandfather, Floyd Hall, started the brokerage

he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

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NEW LISTING



Jennifer Bacon*
Dean Michel*
705-286-2138 x28

Move in ready \$459,000

- 3 Bedroom updated home
- Near Balsam Lake Provincial Park
- 5 Acres of mixed forest with 2 ponds
- Large detached workshop w/ 2 bays & hoist



Drew Bishop**
Kristin Bishop**
457-2128 x23

Haliburton Lake \$849,000

- Lovely year-round 3+ bedroom home or cottage
- Stunning Big Lake views across Haliburton Lake
- The perfect lot; flat, sand shoreline & southern views!



SOLD



Dagmar Boettcher**
457-5968

Carnarvon Home

- 1200 s.f. 3 bdrm, 2 bath home
- 17 Acres of absolute privacy
- Many newer upgrades: septic, windows
- 10 minutes to Minden



SPRING AND REAL ESTATE



Kim Butt*
286-2138 x31

How Can I Help?

- Call to arrange for an opinion of value
- Call to discuss your purchasing needs
- Call for information about this year's Cottage Life Show



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Redstone Lake \$727,700

- Beautiful 3-bedroom, 2 bath home or cottage
- Large windows & deck overlooking the lake
- Southern Exposure, sand beach on Redstone Lake



Gloria Carnochan*
754-1932

NW Exp -Kennis Lake \$499,000

- 3 bdrm, 3 seasons, easy to make Yr RD.
- Priv property, well treed, natural shoreline
- Good clean swimming, shallow to deep



NEW LISTING



Mark Dennys*
457-0473

Maple Lake Cottage \$384,900

- Apprx 86 Ft W/Frtg, 0.2 acr
- Apprx 600 Sq Ft, 2 Bdrm, 3 pc bath
- Mltple Exp, Sandy Beach, 3 Lk Chain
- Dry Boathouse



NEW LISTING



Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 26

Gull Lake, \$529,000

- Unique 3-bedroom cottage w/ 3 pc bath
- WAO Located on Sugar Island Gull Lake
- Rare Western Exp., lakeside deck & dock



SOLD



Lindsay Elder**
457-5878

Clear Lake \$549,000

- 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath Panabode, Western Exp.
- Fully furnished, stainless steel appliances
- Haliburton rm, 2 decks, sunken fire pit
- Clean shallow entry, deep off the dock



Lee Gauthier**
489-9968

Kushog Lake \$449,000

- West exp 3bdrm cottage, laminate floors
- Natural terraced lot, sand beach & flat rock shelf
- New deck and stairs



DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY



Fred Heinzel**
788-5825

Commercial Waterfront \$1,750,000

- 30 acres of land, over 200 ft of water frontage
- Close proximity to the exclusive Bigwin Island Golf Club



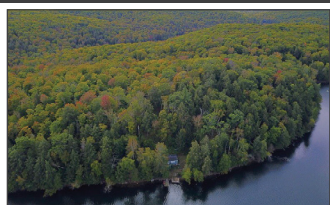
NEW PRICE



Andrew Hodgson***
286-2138 x 29

Gull Lake Cottage \$529,900

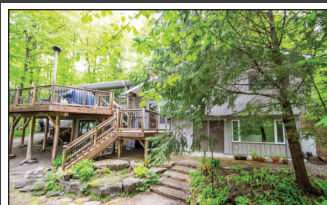
- 4 season, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Beautiful view of Gull Lake
- One of our premier lakes, great boating, fishing & more!



Susanne James*
& Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 33

Rare! Lakefront Acreage \$579,900

- Awesome 2-Lake chain (Long & Miskwabi)
- 650' frontage and 50+ acres
- Traditional 3 season cottage with hydro



Rosemarie Jung*
457-7049

Little Kennis Lake \$849,000

- Beautiful 4 + 1 bdrm, year-round ctge/home
- Large deck right on the water, southern exposure
- Sitting on Haliburton's premier 2 lake system



SOLD



David Lee*
286-2138 x 27

Building Lot \$110,000

- 54 acres off of 121 driveway in Building site cleared and ready for your home



EXCLUSIVE NEW LISTING



Brandon Nimigon*
457-2128 x 27

West Guilford \$147,000

- 3 Bedroom, Century Old farmhouse requires TLC & repair!
- Toolbox and tractor ready! 30 Acres w/trails & pond.
- Detached Garage/storage building, Currently Rental Property.



NEW LISTING



Karen Nimigon**
457-6505

Home w/ Acreage \$465,000

- 3 Bdrm Log Home - 2400' main area living space
- Open concept Kit/DR/LR, light filled window wall
- W/O Bsmt, 14 ac. w/pond, some TLC required



Kirsten Rae*
286-2138 x 30

Haliburton Village \$349,900

- Completely renovated 3-bedroom, 2 bath home
- Walking distance to town with lovely river views



NEW PRICE



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Fortescue Lake \$549,900

- Fortescue Lake \$549,000
- 3-bedroom cottage with Sunroom
- Boat house and Bunkie
- Fully equipped



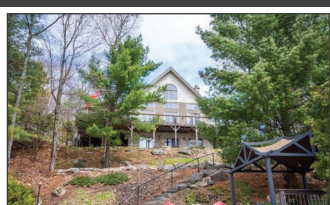
NEW PRICE



Christine Sharp*
286-2138 x59

Hunt Camp/Retreat \$274,900

- 100-acre property
- 2200 Sq Ft off grid lodge
- Close to Carnarvon



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 28

Soyers Lake \$1,899,000

- Timber Frame cottage/home, 5 bdrms & 3 baths
- Open concept, high-end finishing's throughout
- 275 ft of water frontage, waterside deck



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 32

Minden Executive Home \$539,000

- Bungalow with Full Finished Walk-out Lower Level
- 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths,
- 2.2 Acres with Beaver Creek Flowing Through
- Dbl Det'd Garage + Det'd Insulated Workshop



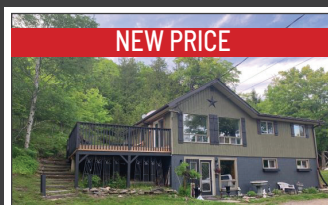
NEW PRICE



Tom Wilkinson
286-2138 x 25

Minden Home \$629,000

- Renovated Century Home on 100 acres.
- Large barn, guest log cabin & several outbuildings
- Solar generation provides added income.



NEW PRICE



Andrea Wilson**
457-2128 x 25

Haliburton Village Home \$344,000

- Private 3-bedroom, 2 bath in-town home
- open concept living area with cathedral ceiling
- Sitting on 3.77 acres with a hilltop view

With offices located in Haliburton 705-457-2128, Minden 705-286-2138,
Carnarvon (705) 489-9968, Kennis/Redstone 705-754-1932,
Wilberforce 705-448-2311, Dorset 705-766-2422

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